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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Alexander BUHL et al.

Appl. No: 10/815,933

Confirmation No: 9442

Filed: April 2, 2004

For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING
NONWOVEN FILTERS

Art Unit: 3721

Examiner: Sameh Tawfik

Atty. Docket No: 41653-201032

Customer No:

26694

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Va. 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.